

ABSTRACT

Techniques are provided for using an authentication proxy server for a destination server to authenticate the identity of the user of a client system based on a digital certificate and a user password. The authentication proxy server also cryptographically associates a digital signature with hardware of a particular client system and later authenticates the hardware of the client system based on the digital signature associated with the hardware. When these techniques are combined with authenticating the destination server based on a digital certificate and authentication the encryption of communications between a browser of the a client system and the a destination server, an authenticated identity for an application user may be provided to the application and the need for the application to request and authenticate a user identifier and password is eliminated.

40164514.doc